

J.P. 11/20/73 NRHP-5/ 14

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Suffolk (city)
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Riddick House	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 510 Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Suffolk		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fourth (Robert W. Daniel, Jr.)	
STATE: Virginia	CODE: 51	COUNTY: (city)	CODE: 800

3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	offices		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Nansemond County School Board			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Suffolk	STATE: Virginia	CODE: 51	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Nansemond County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Suffolk	STATE: Virginia	CODE: 51	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D. C.	CODE: 11	

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

I. General Statement:

A. Architectural character: The Riddick house is a fine and rare surviving example of a Greek Revival townhouse in Virginia.

B. Condition of the fabric: Good.

II. Description of the Exterior:

A. Over-all dimensions: The rectangular two-and-a-half story house is set on an English basement and is five bays long and four bays deep.

B. Foundations: Brick.

C. Wall construction: Brick five course American bond is laid below the stone water table, and on the sides and rear. The facade is laid in very regular Flemish bond.

D. Porches: A one-story diastyle Doric portico with a triangular pediment supported by two fluted columns and two plain pilasters gives access to the street on the west. The porch ceiling features four rectangular panels. A flight of stone steps with a simple iron balustrade and a finely detailed newel ascends to the portico. A similar balustrade with a series of vertical curvilinear motifs at the top surrounds the portico floor. A similar portico on the east has been screened. A one-story tetrastyle portico added across the south end in 1905 features a triangular pediment, fluted columns, and plain pilasters.

E. Chimneys: Two interior chimneys at each end are joined by a low, brick parapet.

F. Openings:

1. Doorways and doors: The west entrance consists of a narrow rectangular transom, a pair of sidelights with leaded geometric patterns framed by piers distinguished by panels. A similar pair of piers frames the doorway. The door features two large rectangular panels. The south doorway is surrounded by simple trim with a bead and has a large square transom over the eight panel door.

2. Windows: The windows on the west facade have simple trim with a large bead, and stone sills. Above each window is a brown sandstone lintel with molded cornice. The remaining windows above the water table have more simple stone lintels. Windows below the water table have a finely detailed flat arch of alternating soldiers and headers. Wooden double-hung windows have nine-over-nine sash on the first floor, nine-over-six sash on the second floor, six-over-six sash on the sides of the third floor, and six-over-three on the rear of the third floor. Eyebrow windows ornament the deep frieze at the facade entablature.

III. Description of the Interior:

A. Floor plan: The basic plan consists of a central hall with two rooms on each side with a transverse hall to the north both on the first floor and in the basement. The upper floor plans feature a complete transverse hall. A two room frame kitchen has been added to the east.

B. Stairway: A two-run open-string stair with turned balusters and brackets ascends in the transverse hall.

C. Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster.

D. Doorways and doors: On the first floor doorways consist of symmetrically molded trim with corner blocks ornamented with acanthus leaves. Each door has eight square panels, and double sliding doors open between the

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

7.

double parlors on the south. On the upper floor, the six-panel doors are surrounded by symmetrically molded trim with large corner blocks.

E. Trim: Rooms on the first floor have a molded cornice. Except for the hall, these rooms also have a picture rail featuring anthemions. A circular plaster medallion on the hall ceiling features a central stylized daisy, a molded circle, a circle of anthemions and an encircling cornice.

F. Heating: All the rooms were originally heated by fireplaces, but central heating is presently used. The first floor has several original marvelous mantels with wide plain pilasters, friezes, and shelves. The mantel in the northwest room is a turn-of-the-century replacement with free-standing fluted columns, plain frieze, and shelf. The upper floor mantels are typical of the period with plain pilasters, arched frieze, and shelves supported by consoles.

IV: Site: The Riddick House, 510 Main Street, faces west. A large yard behind the house contains the present parking area, the remains of terraced gardens, now used as a lawn, and the foundations of a brick outbuilding.

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B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | <u>local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Riddick house is an outstanding example of Greek Revival townhouse architecture. Its exterior exhibits well-executed features such as the handsomely proportioned facade, portico and careful brickwork, and its interior is distinguished by a wealth of finely detailed trim. Virginia was once well endowed with numerous architecturally elaborate ante-bellum townhouses, but war and urban growth has greatly reduced their numbers making the Riddick House an important survivor.

The house was the home of the Riddick family, prominent citizens of Suffolk and Nansemond County, until recent years. Mills Riddick began construction of the present house in 1837 after his former residence was burned in conflagration which consumed much of the town. Following Mills Riddick's death in 1844 the house passed to his oldest son, Nathaniel. During the War Between the States, General John J. Pick and his staff maintained Union Army staff headquarters in the house. The Riddicks resumed occupation after the war.

About 1900 Nathaniel Riddick Withers inherited the house from his grandfather, Nathaniel Riddick. The Withers heirs sold the property to Nansemond County in 1967. The building presently houses the offices of the county school board.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36 ° 44' 13 "	76 ° 34' 57 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than an acre.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff</u>	
ORGANIZATION: <u>Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission</u>	DATE: <u>October, 1973</u>
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>221 Governor Street</u>	
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Richmond</u>	STATE: <u>Virginia</u> CODE <u>51</u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name _____
Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 Title _____

Date

NOV 20 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

56°51' SW
(WINDSOR)

76°37'30" 356000m E 357 358 359 PETERSBURG 53 MI.
36°45' 4068000m N 35 ELEPHANT FORK 0.7 MI. 360

RIDDICK HOUSE

LATITUDE: 36°44'13"

LONGITUDE: 76°34'57"

